The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS
Information Bulletin

Vol. 59, No. 2 February 2000

The Year in Review

The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS

Information Bulletin

Vol. 59, No. 2 February 2000

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BICENTENNIAL 200 LIBRARIES • CREATIVITY • LIBERTY

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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On the Cover: Each year brings new achievements and challenges to the Library of Congress, and 1999 was no exception. *Photo of the Jefferson Building by* Stephan Erfurt.

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The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* (ISSN 0041-7904) is issued monthly by the Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies and allied organizations in the United States. It is also available on the World Wide Web at www.loc.gov/today.

Research institutions and educational organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Director for Acquisitions and Support Services, 101 Independence Avenue S.E., Washington DC 20540-4100. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Public Affairs Office, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave. S.E., Washington DC 20540-1610, e-mail lcib@loc.gov.

GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
JOHN H. SAYERS, Designer

Libraries • Creativity • Liberty

The Library of Congress, 1800-2000

As most readers of the *Information Bulletin* know, the Library of Congress will be 200 on April 24, 2000. The celebration of the Bicentennial of the nation's oldest national cultural institution began in 1999 and will continue throughout this year and the early part of 2001.

April 24, however, will be a special day, and the public is invited to attend the birthday party of America's Library. Following is the schedule of Bicentennial events to come. For the most current information, visit the Web site at **www.loc.gov/bicentennial**.

Can't make the trip to Washington? There are associated activities nationwide, such as the second-day issue events for the Library's commemorative stamp (see story on page 31). The Library's Bicentennial celebrates not only the Library of Congress but *all* libraries and the vital role they plan in American democracy.

Bicentennial Celebration Activities

For updates and the latest information, see the Library's Bicentennial Web site at Web site at www.loc.gov/bicentennial

October 1999 - May 2002

I Hear America Singing, *Bicentennial Concert Series at the Library*

Whether in Washington or on the Web, visitors can enjoy a three-year series of free concerts at the Library of Congress with "I Hear America Singing." Taking its title from a Walt Whitman poem, the series encompasses both classical and popular compositions, exploring the range, diversity and originality of American music.

Concerts for the 1999-2000 season began October 1 with Bobby Short & His Orchestra and will close with a Stephen Sondheim Salute on his 70th birthday. The series comprises a rich array of performances that includes a celebration of the centennial of the birth of one of the nation's finest composers, Aaron Copland, in a special program on November 18, 2000, and concerts by the Juilliard String Quartet, the Martha Graham Dance Company and the Four Tops.

"I Hear America Singing" will look back to our heritage of popular song and our roles as listeners as well as performers — in schools and parades, at worship and social gatherings. Information about the concert series is available on-line at **www.loc.gov/rr/perform/concert/99-2000.html**. For recorded information, call the concert line, (202) 707-5502.

April 2, 9, 16 & 23, 9 p.m.

Favorite Poets, *a series of four one-hour interviews with Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky, W.S. Merwin, Rita Dove & Louise Glück*

A series of four one-hour programs for public radio, featuring interviews by Grace Cavalieri. Guests are Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky, former Laureate Rita Dove, and Pulitzer Prize winners Louise Glück and W.S. Merwin. The poets, recorded at the Library of Congress, honor the Library's Bicentennial as well as National Poetry Month, April 2000. Each program presents the poet reading work, a discussion of the writing process, a portrait of the poet through conversation and interview, with an entertaining look at the personal and poetic lives of each of these literary figures. "Favorite Poets" is a special Bicentennial offering of "The Poet and the Poem from the Library of Congress," Grace Cavalieri's public radio series featuring poets visiting the Library.

"Favorite Poets" will be distributed nationally via National Public Radio satellite for airing in local markets during April, National Poetry Month. Check with local public radio stations for times and dates of airing. In Washington DC, the series will be heard on WPFW, 89.3 FM, Sundays at 9 p.m.

Clockwise from upper left: Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky and the three Special Consultants in Poetry for the Bicentennial: W.S. Merwin, Louise Glück and Rita Dove.

April 3-4, 2000

Poetry in America *with Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky, Rita Dove, W.S. Merwin, Louise Glück & others*

Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky launched his Favorite Poem Project in 1997 with President and Mrs. Clinton reading their favorite poems at the White House. On April 3 at 7:30 p.m., he will present to the Library of Congress tapes made during the last two years of Americans from all walks of life reading their favorite poems. The archives will reside permanently at the Library as one of its Bicentennial "Gifts to the Nation."

Mr. Pinsky, the first Poet Laureate to serve three consecutive terms, will be joined in this two-day event (a symposium on April 4 begins at 8:45 a.m.) on Poetry in America by three Pulitzer Prize-winning poets, Rita Dove, Louise Glück and W.S. Merwin, who have been named Special Consultants in Poetry for the Bicentennial. The event will be cybercast live and archived afterward at **www.loc.gov**.

N. Alicia Byers

Matthew Carlos Schwartz

Fred Viebahn

James Baker Hall

April 21, 2000

Opening of "The Wizard of Oz: An American Fairy Tale,"

an exhibition marking the 100th anniversary of one of the best-known copyrights ever issued by the Library's Copyright Office

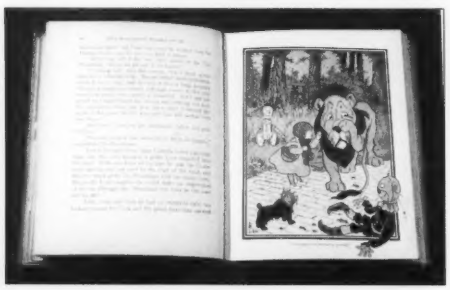
The "yellow brick road" leads to the Library with the opening of an exhibition marking the 100th anniversary of one of the best-known copyrights ever issued: L. Frank Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.*

Drawing on the Library's unparalleled collections of books, posters, films, sheet music, manuscripts and sound recordings, "The Wizard of Oz" will examine the creation of this timeless American classic and trace its rapid and enduring success, including the 1939 film starring Judy Garland that continues to enchant millions of people around the world.

Because of its unique role as the nation's copyright depository, the Library's collections contain many rare or unique items related to The Wizard of Oz and its impact on American popular culture. Among the items that will be on display are Baum's original, handwritten copyright application; a first edition of his book, published in 1900; an early advertisement for the book; some of the copies of the 13 other books that Baum later wrote about the Land of Oz; posters for stage and screen versions; an imaginative literary map of Oz; publicity shots and photographs taken on the set of the 1939 film; and ceramic figurines depicting Oz characters dating from the 1970s. Film clips and sound recordings will be a highlight of the exhibition.

"The Wizard of Oz," comprising some 80 objects, will also include film props and colorful costumes, such as Dorothy's ruby slippers, Ray Bolger's Scarecrow costume, the Cowardly Lion's wig (worn by Bert Lahr) and a complete Munchkin outfit; and memorabilia borrowed from other institutions and private collectors. It is sure to delight visitors to the Library and children of all ages, when they follow "the yellow brick road" to the Library of Congress in April.

The exhibition will be on view through Sept. 23 in the South Gallery of the Great Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Building. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday-Saturday. For information, call (202) 707-4604, or visit the Library's web site at **www.loc.gov**.



From the first edition of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz,* 1900

April 24, 2000

The Library of Congress Bicentennial Birthday Celebration

All events will be held in the Thomas Jefferson Building, 10 First Street, S.E.

9:30-10:30 a.m., Great Hall

Commemorative Stamp and Coins Issuance Ceremonies

The Postmaster General and Director of the U.S. Mint join the Librarian of Congress for the issuance of these special items. Stamps and coins will on sale the entire day. The stamp designer will be available to autograph first day covers (envelope with cachet design, stamp, and "first day issue" cancellation) and engravers will be available to autograph the "certificates of authenticity."

The commemorative coin is the first bimetallic (gold and platinum) commemorative coin in U.S. history, making it highly collectible. The coin is one of only two commemoratives to be issued in 2000. Proceeds from the coins will allow Americans to support the educational goals of the Library.

10:00 a.m., Northwest Gallery and Pavilion

Opening of Major Exhibition, "Thomas Jefferson," the first time since 1815 that his library has been reassembled in one place in his original order

Thomas Jefferson — founding father, farmer, architect, inventor, slaveholder, book collector, scholar, diplomat and third president of the United States — was a complex figure who contributed immeasurably to the creation of the new democracy in America. Drawing on the extraordinary written legacy of Thomas Jefferson that is held in the Library's collections, the exhibition traces Jefferson's ever-expanding realm of influence: the American Revolutionary government, the creation of the American nation, the revolution in individual rights in America and the world, the Revolution in France, and the burgeoning republican revolutionary movement throughout the world.

Thomas Jefferson's influence is still felt today in the Library of Congress, where his personal book collection, sold to Congress when its library was burned by the British in 1814, became the seed from which today's wide-ranging and universal collections grew. One of the highlights of the exhibition is the reconstitution for the first time of Jefferson's library — the 6,487 books that arrived in Washington from Monticello in the spring of 1815 — in one place, in the order that Jefferson himself devised for their classification. Because of an 1851 fire in the Library, many of those original books had been lost. Spurred by a very generous gift by Jerry and Gene Jones, members of the Library's Madison Council, as a Bicentennial project, the Library has been reassembling copies of the same editions of the works that Jefferson held. The Jefferson library should be more than 90 percent complete by April 24.

Bust of Jefferson in the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building.

Some 150 items in this major exhibition will illustrate and help to provide a context for the life and character of Thomas Jefferson in eight sections: "Jefferson Today," "One Man's World," "Creating a Virginia Republic," "Declaration of Independence," "Establishing a Federal Republic," "The West," "A Revolutionary World," and "Epitaph." The ninth and final section will be the re-creation of the "Jefferson Library." Visitors to the exhibition will see such items as the only surviving fragment of the earliest known draft of the Declaration of Independence; Martha Jefferson's thread case; Jefferson's instructions to Lewis and Clark; political cartoons of the day lampooning Jefferson; Jefferson's favorite copying machine, with which he made copies of the letters that he sent; and the last letter that Thomas Jefferson wrote, to the mayor of the city of Washington just 10 days before he died, espousing his vision of the Declaration of Independence and the American nation as signals of the blessings of self-government to an ever-evolving world.

Hours for the exhibition, on display through Oct. 31, are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Saturday. For information, call (202) 707-4604, or visit the Library's web site at www.loc.gov.

11:00-11:45 a.m., **Press Event:** launch of new Web site for families, and public service campaign with the Ad Council

The Library's new Web site for families will be launched. Entertaining and easy-to-use, America's Library (**www.americaslibrary.gov**) will bring America's story alive through words, sounds, and images. Through a partnership with the Ad Council, this educational initiative will be widely publicized through public service announcements.

April 24, 2000 (continued)

noon-1:30 p.m., Neptune Plaza

Library of Congress National Birthday Party with "Living Legends"

A Bicentennial birthday celebration will include well-known invited performing artists and "Living Legends" (including Colin Powell, Mickey Hart, Pete Seeger, Julia Child, Quincy Jones, Isaac Stern, Big Bird and others), whose creativity is represented in the Library's vast collections.

April 25, 2000

Second-Day Issue of Commemorative Stamp

On April 25, 2000, through the end of May, libraries across the United States will hold second-day issue events where patrons can have the Library of Congress commemorative stamp marked with a special cancellation.

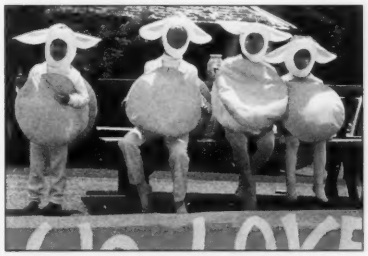
May 23, 2000

A Celebration of America's Local Legacies

Americans everywhere have been documenting their unique local traditions and sending that documentation to the Library for inclusion in its American Folklife Center.

The Local Legacies projects, which were selected by members of Congress in every state and four territories — American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands — celebrate the nation's diversity as a source of its strength and vitality. From zydeco music to decoy carving, rodeos to dogsled races, parades to food festivals, Local Legacies reached into every corner of the nation to document America's folk heritage.

Working with their members of Congress, Americans participated in this unprecedented effort. On May 23, all participants and members of Congress will be invited to the Library of Congress to celebrate their cultural and historic contributions to the Bicentennial. Selections from the Local Legacies projects will be digitized and shared electronically over the Internet at **www.loc.gov**, where Americans for generations to come will be able to learn about their cultural heritage at the end of the century.



From Utah's annual Lamb Day.

October 23 - 27, 2000

National Libraries of the World: Interpreting the Past and Shaping the Future

The Library of Congress will host an international symposium, "National Libraries of the World: Interpreting the Past, Shaping the Future," on Oct. 23-27, 2000. Librarians from around the world will explore the influences that have shaped national libraries in the past and issues confronting them today and in the next century.

October 30 - 31, 2000

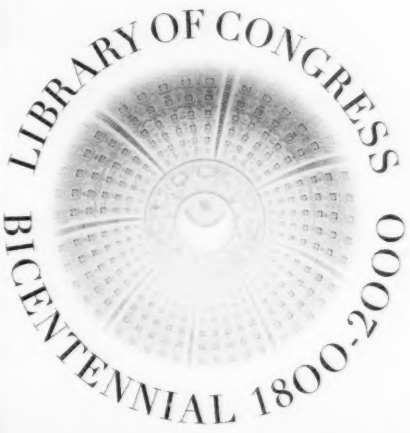
To Preserve and Protect: Linking Preservation and Security

Library preservation and security policymakers will consider future directions in their fields. Topics include establishing preservation and security standards, measuring effectiveness, establishing budgets and allocating funds for preservation and security, opportunities and barriers to cooperation, and challenges posed by the electronic information and digitization age.

November 15-17, 2000

The Library of Congress Bicentennial Conference on Bibliographic Control for the New Millennium: Confronting the Challenges of Networked Resources and the Web

During the last five years, libraries have seen an explosion of digital resources available on the World Wide Web, and these resources have presented a number of cataloging problems related to their bibliographic control. Leaders in the library cataloging and Internet information communities will meet to discuss policy and procedures of producing standardized records to enable bibliographic control and access to resources in a variety of formats. The 2½-day event will include presentations, panel discussions, breakout sessions and technology demonstrations by vendors and project managers.



December 2000

National Digital Library Program's "Gift to the Nation"

The National Digital Library Program's "American Memory" project is the Library's Bicentennial Gift to the Nation. Millions of items will be on-line by the end of the year at **www.loc.gov**.

This Web site, drawing on items from the Library's incomparable American history collections, as well as materials from other repositories, is called "American Memory." It has been listed among the top Web sites by *Time* magazine, *Family PC Magazine* and *PC Week* and recently received the GII Award for Excellence in Education. Among the primary sources freely available are photographs from the Civil War and Depression era, panoramic views of America's cities and towns, examples of popular culture (baseball cards, folk songs), manuscripts of American presidents, Thomas Edison's motion pictures, documents of the women's suffrage and civil rights movements, and letters of Frederick Douglass and other abolitionists. This public-private initiative has been funded through the generosity of the U.S. Congress and private donors.

January 2001 (permanent)

World Treasures of the Library of Congress

The Library of Congress is more than America's library, it is a world library in the scope of its collections, gathered from every corner of the globe.

The exhibition "World Treasures of the Library of Congress" will expand the focus of the Library's first permanent exhibition, "American Treasures," which features more than 270 items representing a cross section of the Library's vast repository of rare books, music, manuscripts, maps, photographs, drawings, audio clips and videotapes.

Items to be included in this popular exhibition are the 1478 Washington Haggadah, Sumerian cuneiform tablets from 2040 B.C., posters illustrated by Toulouse Lautrec and musical manuscripts by Beethoven, Mozart and Mendelssohn. ◆

Fiscal Responsibility

Library Submits FY 2001 Budget

BY GAIL FINEBERG

A $21.3 million request to continue the pioneering work of the National Digital Library Program is part of a fiscal year 2001 Library budget that Dr. Billington presented to the House Subcommittee on Legislative Appropriations on Jan. 27.

The Digital Futures Initiative also would give the Library the ability to capture, store and disseminate important digital materials that are created on-line and exist in no other format.

Stephan Erfurt

Dr. Billington told the subcommittee the Library has become the "leading provider of high-quality, free educational material in the revolutionary new world of the Internet."

Having demonstrated the value of the National Digital Library (NDL) Program, the Library now wants to begin building systematically "a new kind of 21st century library for all Americans—the National On-line Library," he said.

Funds for this effort are included in the Library's proposed fiscal 2001 budget request, which Dr. Billington presented to the House subcommittee chaired by Rep. Charles H. Taylor (R-N.C.). Other panel members are Reps. Kay Granger (R-Texas), Steny H. Hoyer (D-Md.), Jerry Lewis (R-Calif.), John P. Murtha (D-Pa.), Ed Pastor (D-Ariz.), John E. Peterson (R-Pa.) and Zach Wamp (R-Tenn.).

For FY 2001, Dr. Billington requested a total of $428.1 million in net appropriations plus authority to spend an additional $33.6 million in receipts. The net increase requested represents an 11.4 percent increase from the FY 2000 net appropriation of $384.5 million, plus authority to spend $33.1 million in receipts. Of the requested $43.7 million increase, $16.6 million is needed to pay for mandatory pay raises and unavoidable price-level increases. The Library also needs $27.1 million and 192 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions to meet critical, growing workload increases. Even with these positions, the Library would have 281 fewer FTEs than in fiscal year 1992.

If approved, the proposed new budget would secure the future of the Library's digital program; ensure the continuity and quality of core services through succession planning in the Congressional Research Service, Library Services and the Law Library; provide for security of the Library staff and collections; and permanently fund a mass deacidification program and full operation of the first offsite storage facility in Fort Meade, Md.

Digital Futures Initiative

Summing up a detailed five-year plan for the Library's proposed Digital Futures Initiative, Dr. Billington said the proposed $21.3 million budget includes $7.6 million to collect and store digital content; $11 million to implement the "critical technology backbone"; and $2.6 million to increase educational outreach and public access.

"I see the National On-line Library becoming the hub of an international network," Dr. Billington said. The National On-line Library also would collect important digital documents, which, "born on-line," exist only in electronic format, he said.

Also, Digital Futures Initiative funding would enable the Library to guide the development of national and international standards to ensure easy access to digital materials and to continue an in-depth study of digital preservation questions.

The Digital Futures Initiative would build on the achievements of the five-year National Digital Library Program that Congress approved in 1996. Congress appropriated $15 million over five years for the NDL Program, and private foundations, corporations and individuals gave more than $45 million for the program, which expires this year.

According to NDL Program Director Laura Campbell, the Digital Futures Initiative budget would support a base of 133 FTEs, enabling the Library to convert temporary NDL staffers now paid with gift funds to permanent status.

The NDL Program collected digital versions of historical materials from more than 70 collections of the Library and 33 other research institutions and made them available, free of charge, on the Library's American Memory Web site (**www.loc.gov**). This pioneering effort was a "stunning success," Dr. Billington said, noting that the site won the prestigious Global Information Infrastructure Award for Education in December.

More Hands to Do the Work

In response to questions about other items in the Library's proposed budget, Dr. Billington or his senior managers explained that:

- $2 million requested for a total 46 additional full-time employees (FTEs) would enable the Library to accelerate the preparation and transfer of materials from overcrowded Capitol Hill quarters to new storage modules to be built at Fort Meade, Md., and to rearrange the remaining collections on Capitol Hill to better serve readers.
- $5 million in the budget of the Architect of the Capitol for the Library would match funds from a private donor to accelerate preparation of the National Audio-Visual Conservation Center in Culpeper, Va., for offsite preservation and storage of audio-visual materials.
- Permanent funding ($2.5 million) would sustain the increased police staffing approved two years ago, and an increase of $4.5 million would improve collections security controls, such as bar codes, by which all items

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Bibliography for the Blind

Union Catalog Adds 38,000 Records of British Materials

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped of the Library of Congress has added more than 38,000 bibliographic records from the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) of the United Kingdom into its Union Catalog of braille and audio reading materials for blind and physically handicapped readers. The Union Catalog now holds more than 340,000 bibliographic records, representing special-materials collections in the United States, Ireland, Canada, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

Stephen King, director of Technical and Consumer Services for the RNIB, said, "This cooperative effort with the Library of Congress means that our titles, available for sale or interlibrary loan, will be accessible on-line internationally through the Internet. Not only will citizens in the United Kingdom benefit, as well as those in the United States, but everyone internationally. And, this has been accomplished at minimal cost." RNIB is the leading agency working on behalf of blind and visually disabled individuals in the United Kingdom, as well as being one of the world's foremost producers of books in special format.

"The Library's Union Catalog of reading materials for blind and physically handicapped individuals represents the most comprehensive bibliographic tool of its kind in the world. Accessibility to this catalog through the Internet has assured its use worldwide by eligible blind and physically handicapped individuals and represents yet another achievement by the Library of Congress in meeting its twin goals of international cataloging cooperation and making its own collections more widely accessible," said Frank Kurt Cylke, Director of the Library's National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

The NLS/RNIB project was the culmination of several years' effort. It is part of an RNIB commitment to make available its holdings to users of the NLS Union Catalog through interlibrary loan or sale. The 38,000 records represent book titles recorded on two and four-track format cassette tapes, as well as braille books and musical scores. Book titles in Moon format, a simplified tactile writing system based upon the standard English alphabet, will be added in the near future. Some special-format titles that are not available for sale or interlibrary loan, however, will not be added.

Robert Axtell, head of the NLS Bibliographic Control Section, who oversaw the logistics of converting the 38,000 bibliographic records for these special-format materials, said, "This contribution is a signal milestone on the path toward universal bibliographic control of books in special format."

The Union Catalog is intended to serve both as a tool for resource sharing as an interlibrary loan, as well as to reduce the duplication of effort among producers of books in special format.

For further information contact: Robert E. Fistick, Head, Publications and Media Section, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, 1291 Taylor St. N.W., Washington, DC 20542; telephone: (202) 707-9279; e-mail: rfis@loc.gov. ◆

Budget
continued from page 26

can be tracked through the integrated library system (ILS) and a baseline item-by-item book inventory against which to measure loss or theft.

- The Congressional Research Service (CRS) is visiting graduate schools to ask "the best and brightest in the country ... to come to work for you," CRS Director Dan Mulhollan told the panel.
- The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has started designing new digital standards for audio books and has a plan by which the agency is planning to adapt services and products to the digital age.

In conclusion, subcommittee chairman Taylor thanked Dr. Billington and his staff for their presentation, and he praised the Librarian for "the respect shown you from all over the world... .[for] your desire to make information available all around the world and for your character." ◆

Ms. Fineberg is editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newspaper.*

THOMAS Web Site Defaced by Computer Hackers

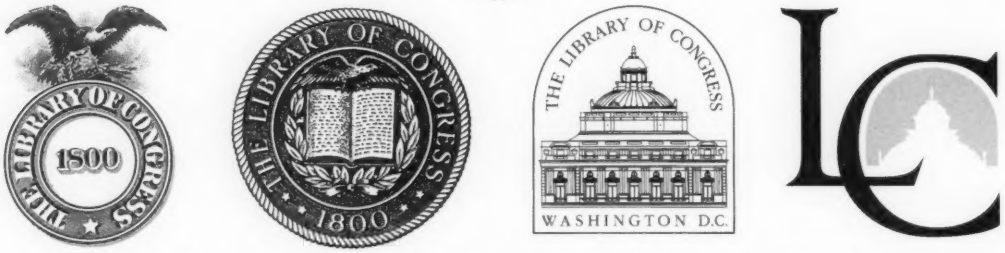
The Library's Web site was defaced by computer vandals at about 6 p.m. on Jan. 17, preventing users of THOMAS (**thomas.loc.gov**) from accessing congressional legislation, as reported by the Associated Press. The computer hackers called themselves "LmT," or Lamers Team, "four hackers from a little country in Europe."

The Library's Information Technology Services (ITS) estimates that the THOMAS home page was publicly available in its defaced state for approximately 1-1/2 hours before access to the system was blocked from the Internet. Library staff became aware that the THOMAS home page had been defaced at approximately 7 p.m., and Internet access to the THOMAS system was blocked at about 7:20 p.m.

The THOMAS main page is the only identified damaged page on the Library's Web site, which is one of the most popular government sites.

"We apologize for any inconvenience that was caused to Library users," said Judith Stork, assistant director of ITS.

The incident has been reported to appropriate authorities. Library staff are in the process of reviewing the Library's network and computer security measures and procedures. ◆



The Library's symbols continually evolve. The eagle (far left) was used on bookplates in the 19th century. The open book came to the fore in the 1920s and 1930s. The still-used stylized government eagle (at the top of the page) was introduced during World War II. Images of the Jefferson Building, especially its dome, have dominated since the 1980s.

Bicentennial Background

Symbols of a National Institution

BY JOHN Y. COLE

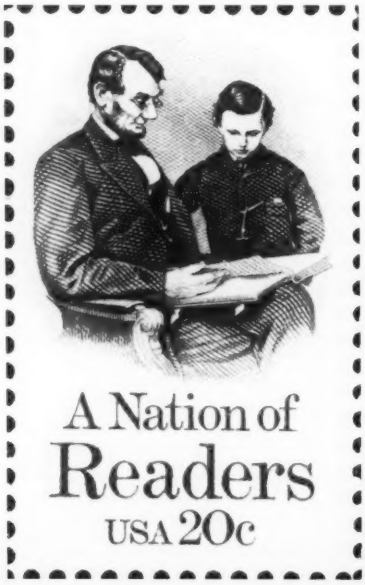
The Library of Congress, during its nearly 200 years, has been identified in the public mind in as many ways as it has constituencies.

The Bicentennial theme of "Libraries, Creativity, Liberty" encompasses one set of ideals and symbols: the Library of Congress, like all libraries, fosters education, creativity and democracy. Most members of Congress focus on the Library's chief mission: providing research to lawmakers in carrying out their duties. Researchers and subject specialists appreciate the richness of the collections. Others, especially visitors to Washington, know the Library mostly through its monumental 1897 Jefferson Building, an elaborately decorated architectural tribute to the universality and importance of recorded knowledge. Librarians know the institution primarily as a resource — as the largest library in the world and as a major source of bibliographic and technical data. Those served directly by the Copyright Office, the Law Library and the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped know the services of those offices. The Library's historical role as a legislative institution that also serves the nation and the world additionally has helped shape public perceptions.

The Library's Bicentennial programs include each of these constituencies, often making use of established Library of Congress symbols and logos.

The U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Mint will mark the Library's 200th birthday on April 24 by issuing a 33-cent commemorative stamp (see page 31) and two commemorative coins. The stamp and the coin are themselves of historical importance. The Library has only sponsored two other stamps, and the coins will be the first to honor a library. By acquainting a wide audience with symbols that characterize and identify the Library today, the stamp and coins will help increase the Library's visibility throughout the nation.

The stamp, reminiscent of the Bicentennial logo, features the interior dome of the Library's Main Reading Room, with Edwin Blashfield's mural *The Evolution of Civilization* at the top center. The $1 silver coin contains the Torch of Learning from the Jefferson Building dome, an open book, and the dates "1800-2000" on one side, and the entire dome of the Jefferson Building on the other. The $10 bimetallic coin highlights the Library's seal on one side and, on the other, Minerva's hand holding a torch in the Jefferson Building's Great Hall with the Jefferson Building in the background. This coin is gold and platinum and is the nation's first bimetallic commemorative.



The Library sponsored these two U.S. postage stamps prior to the new Bicentennial stamp (see p. 31). The Jefferson Building was highlighted in 1982, and the Center for the Book's "A Nation of Readers" theme was featured in 1984.

Seals, Bookplates, Insignia and Souvenirs

Through the years, many different bookplates, seals and insignia have represented the Library. A formidable array was published on the cover of the catalog for the Library's 1950 Sesquicentennial exhibition. The Library's bookplates between 1815 and 1864 were published in William Dawson Johnston's *History of the Library of Congress 1800-1864* (1904). It is interesting to note that the phrase "Library of Congress" is used on each, even though generally speaking the institution was referred to as "the Congressional Library," at least by the press, throughout most of the 19th century. The 1997 exhibition, "The Thomas Jefferson Building: Book Palace of the American People," featured popular souvenirs depicting the building when it opened in 1897. The eclectic assortment included spoons, plates, cups and saucers, scissors, letter openers, watch fobs, paperweights and napkins rings, most of them celebrating the "New Library of Congress."

These Library bookplates date from 1815 to 1864. The illustration is from William Dawson Johnston's *History of the Library of Congress, 1800-1864* (1904).

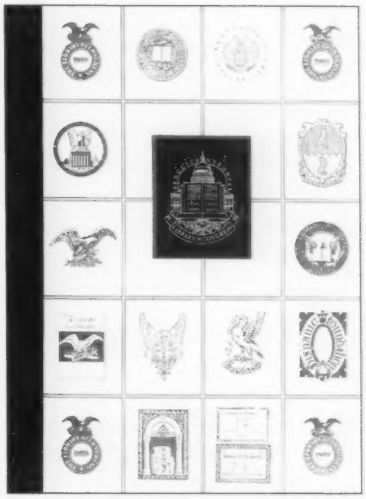
Civilization, Knowledge, and Learning

The Jefferson Building itself is the Library's best known symbol. When it opened in 1897, the press called it a "monument to civilization," and "the book palace of the American people." Its iconography, borrowed heavily from the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, emphasizes Western civilization and implies that America has become its capstone. Or at least that the future belongs to America.

Knowledge and the importance of the written and printed word are depicted everywhere. In the Jeffersonian tradition, all fields of learning (known at the time) are represented in the Main Reading Room's statuary and throughout the building's walls and ceilings. Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom, presides in the Great Hall. Quotations and inscriptions about knowledge, books and learning abound, interspersed with the names of great writers and 56 printers' marks in the ceilings. Three other infusions of this theme come from the sculptured figures *The Students*, by Olin Levi Warner beneath the commemorative arch in the Great Hall; from John White Alexander's lunettes, *The Evolution of the Book*, in the Great Hall's east corridor; and from the Torch of Learning on top of the dome, marking the center and the apex of the building and what it represents.

Government and Democracy

Government and democracy also



This cover of the catalog of the Library's 1950 sesquicentennial exhibition presents more than a dozen Library of Congress symbols.

are represented in the Jefferson Building, but not as abundantly as the themes of civilization or knowledge. The principal example, Elihu Vedder's series of five paintings titled *Government* is centrally placed, however, just outside the entrance to the Main Reading Room. In his 1897 guide to the building, Herbert Small explains that the five panels (*Government* in the center, *Corrupt Legislation* and *Anarchy* on the left, *Good Administration* and *Peace and Prosperity* on the right) "represent the abstract conception of a republic as the ideal state, ideally presented." The second-story northeast pavilion, originally known as the "pavilion of the seals," is decorated with the seals of executive branch agencies of government. The disc in the ceiling shows the Great Seal of the United States surrounded by allegorical emblems. Patriotic quotations from Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Daniel Webster, Andrew

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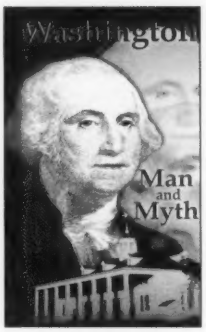
Correction: The Bicentennial Background article in the December 1999 *Information Bulletin* mistakenly identified the date of the establishment of the Legislative Reference Service (now Congressional Research Service) as 1941. The correct date is 1914.

'The Indispensable Man'

Washington's Legacy Discussed at Symposium

By JOHN Y. COLE



"New ways of educating people about George Washington using cutting-edge technology, advanced communication and popular culture," was the focus, according to James C. Rees, resident director of Mount Vernon, of "The Indispensable Man," the final symposium in the yearlong commemoration of the 200th anniversary of George Washington's death.

The event was held at the Library on Nov. 19-20, 1999, and was cosponsored by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

"The amount of space devoted to Washington in traditional textbooks is shrinking, and we are seeking new ways to communicate with students and prospective history enthusiasts across the nation," said Mr. Rees. "Mount Vernon is pleased to cooperate with the Library of Congress, Colonial Williamsburg and other educational institutions in this effort."

The Library of Congress holds the nation's largest collection of original Washington documents and an extraordinarily rich collection of Washington surveys and maps. The symposium was an excellent opportunity for the Library to display important items from these collections to an eager audience. Behind-the-scenes visits to view Washington and Washington-related materials were a much-appreciated first-day highlight. Participants visited the Manuscript, Geography and Map, and Rare Book and Special Collections divisions and toured the Great Hall and the permanent exhibition "American Treasures of the Library of Congress." The tour and discussion leaders were Marvin Kranz of the Manuscript Division, Ed Redmond of the Geography and Map Division, Mark Dimunation and Clark Evans of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, and this writer.

In his keynote address, "George Washington and Publius: Lessons for Modern Politics," David Abshire, president of the Center for the Study of Democracy, spoke about how Washington, by learning from his mistakes, changed from a "hotheaded young man" into a principled, "other-centered" leader of high integrity in both his public and private lives. Two presentations addressed the most meaningful documents penned by Washington, who was a prolific writer. Michael Dunne, professor of American Studies at the University of Sussex, discussed Washington's farewell address and how it has been interpreted for the past two centuries. John P. Riley of the White House Historical Association presented comments about Washington's last will and testament. David R. Palmer, president of Walden University, joined Mr. Dunne, Mr. Riley and Mr. Rees for a panel discussion about contemporary perceptions of Washington and his legacy.

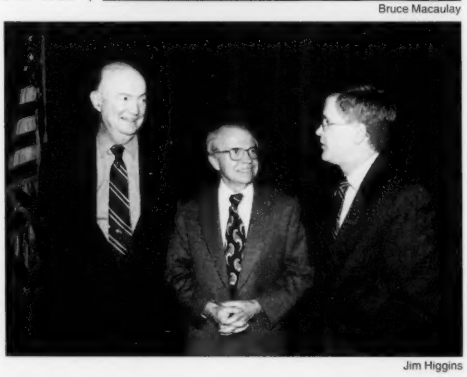
The symposium's final afternoon began with a talk by William Martin, author of *Citizen Washington,* on "George Washington and the Historical Novel: Where Fact and Fiction Come Together." Next came three demonstrations of ways that Washington's legacy is being presented using electronic media and film. Richard L. McCluney Jr. of Colonial Williamsburg, in "Learning About George Washington Through Electronic Field Trips," described the creation of this innovative classroom tool and showed excerpts from the George Washington field trip video. In "The Digitization of the Papers and Maps of Washington," Laura Graham, project coordinator of the Library's on-line version of Washington's papers (**www.loc.gov**) and Ed Redmond provided an overview of the Web presentation and demonstrated how to access both manuscripts and maps on-line.

The session on "Washington on Film" featured legendary author Howard Fast, whose novel about Washington's crossing of the Delaware River, *The Crossing,* had recently been filmed for television by the Arts &

continued on page 31

John Y. Cole

Bruce Macaulay



Jim Higgins

Author Howard Fast (top); Roger Rees as General Mercer and Jeff Daniels as General Washington in an A&E adaptation of Mr. Fast's novel *The Crossing;* and Washington symposium participants David Abshire, John Cole and James Rees.

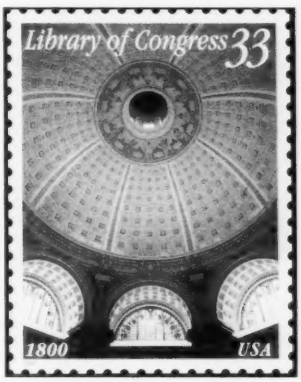
A Nation Takes Part

Libraries Asked to Join Celebration

BY KATHY WOODRELL

The Library of Congress invites all public libraries to take part in the national celebration of the Library of Congress Bicentennial.

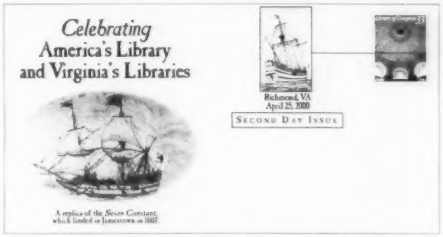
On April 24, 2000, the first day of issue, the United States Postal Service will release a commemorative postage stamp (at right) at the Library of Congress in Washington. From April 25 through May 31, libraries around the country can hold their own ceremonies as "second-day" issue sites.



To date, 380 public libraries and approximately 30 state libraries plan to hold events — there is no limit to the number of libraries that can take part in this collaborative venture with the Library of Congress. Libraries have great flexibility in planning a second-day issue event and the potential is limitless.

Several libraries in Tuscaloosa, Ala., are holding a cooperative community event. Participating libraries inlude Brooks-Cork Library, Shelton State Community College; Tuscaloosa Public Library; Health Sciences Library, University of Alabama; William H. Sheppard Library, Stillman College; and University Libraries, University of Alabama.

The Emmaus Public Library in Pennsylvania plans to hold a second-day event as part of its annual used-book sale. The usually well-attended book sale will be held at a local middle school, where the library hopes to draw new and diverse crowds for both events.



This cachet design will be used in Virginia during second-day issue events.

After a successful bond drive for a new building, the Huron Public Library in Ohio plans to use its second-day event as part of a groundbreaking ceremony.

The Wauseon Public Library, also in Ohio, plans to hold a stamp issuance event as part of a yearlong celebration of 125 years of library service. Similarly, the Corfu Free Library in New York will hold an event as part of its 80th anniversary celebration.

On request, the Library of Congress Bicentennial Program Office will send an information kit that includes a timetable and checklist for planning your second-day-issue event, guidance for planning a ceremony, programming ideas and suggestions, information about envelope designs for your event, publicity guidelines and many other documents to assist you with event logistics. Staff in the Bicentennial Program Office are also available to work directly with you on planning an event.

This is an opportunity to invite your member of Congress and local dignitaries and celebrities to take part in the second-day issue event. Holding such an event is a great way to honor a prominent community member or to partner with interested organizations to exemplify the Library of Congress Bicentennial theme, "Libraries, Creativity, Liberty," as well as the American Library Association's 2000 theme, "Libraries Build Community."

Consider using your second-day issue event to highlight an area celebration, to kick off a programming series, unveil new library equipment, dedicate a new collection or feature an element of your library you would like to highlight. One library plans to hold the second-day issue event at the opening of a new library building.

More information about the commemorative stamp second-day issue project, including an image of the stamp design, can be found at **www.loc.gov/bicentennial/items_stamp.html**. A fact sheet for the Library of Congress Commemorative Postage Stamp Second-Day Issue Sites Project is also available, at **www.loc.gov/bicentennial/factsheet.html**.

If you are interested in holding an event, need additional information, or wish to request an information kit, contact Kathy Woodrell in the Library of Congress Bicentennial Program Office at kwoo@loc.gov; telephone (202) 707-7206; or toll-free (800) 707-7145. ◆

Ms. Woodrell, a reference librarian in the Main Reading Room, is detailed to the Library's Bicentennial Program Office.

Washington
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Entertainment Network (A&E). (It was aired on Jan. 10). Mr. Fast, who wrote the screenplay for the film, is the author of more than 70 novels. He told his admiring audience that he published the first of these novels 66 years ago. After vividly describing some of the pitfalls of making a film about a novel that took place in the Revolutionary War, he talked about the strength of Washington's character and was emphatic in his assessment: "the existence of the United States is due to one man — George Washington." Excerpts from *The Crossing* were shown, and Mr. Fast and Marlea Willis, director of A&E public affairs, discussed the teacher's guide and supplementary educational materials. The concluding symposium event was a private tour of Washington's estate at Mount Vernon. ◆

Mr. Cole is director of the Center for the Book.

The Year in Review

1999 Marks Start of Bicentennial Celebration

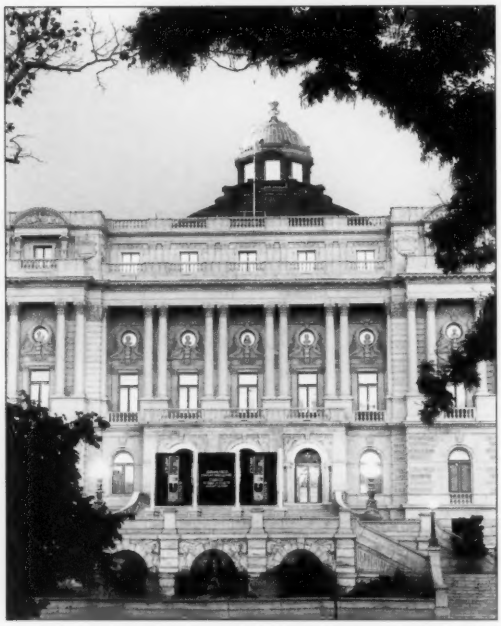
BY AUDREY FISCHER

The Bicentennial of the Library in 2000 provides a unique opportunity to highlight both the history and the future of the world's largest library and the nation's oldest federal cultural institution.

While continuing to prepare for its 200th birthday, the Library implemented an Integrated Library System (ILS) that supports traditional library activities such as acquisitions and bibliographic control in a single system and administered a Russian Leadership Program that brought emerging Russian political leaders to the United States to observe the workings of democratic institutions.

Other highlights included increased physical security for the Library's staff as well as its collections, facilities and computer resources. This included readying the Library's mission-critical information systems for the year 2000 century change. In addition, the National Digital Library Program made major progress toward its goal of making freely available 5 million items on the Library's Web site (www.loc.gov) by 2000 as a gift to the nation.

The Library also received a number of important acquisitions, improved service to Congress and the nation through the use of technology, and continued to make segments of its vast resources available electronically on its award-winning World Wide Web site.



Stephan Erfurt

Thomas Jefferson Building

Legislative Support to Congress

Serving Congress is the Library's highest priority. During the year, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) delivered more than 545,000 research responses to members and committees of Congress. CRS provided information to Congress on matters ranging from agriculture to taxation and trade, from China to Kosovo, from space and technology to welfare and related issues. CRS also addressed a range of defense issues, among them budget priorities, medical care costs, military intelligence and law enforcement, base closings, acquisition reform, budget process procedures, the cost to the United States of the Kosovo military operation and long-term defense policy.

On the domestic front, CRS assisted Congress as it considered matters relating to agriculture, education, banking and finance, proposed election campaign finance reforms, impeachment, proposed managed health care reforms, space and technology, Social Security, taxation, trade, welfare, children and families. CRS continued to prepare expert testimony for Congress on topics related to the Y2K computer problem.

CRS held a three-day workshop on oversight for congressional staff that resulted in an updated congressional oversight manual, a video for broadcast on the congressional cable network and a committee print of the proceedings.

The Law Library answered nearly 4,400 in-person reference requests from congressional users. Law Library research staff produced 975 written reports for Congress, including comprehensive multinational studies on issues such as human rights, health care and crime.

The Copyright Office provided policy advice and technical assistance to Congress on important copyright-related issues such as database protection, extension of the satellite compulsory license, technical corrections in the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (enacted on Aug. 4, 1999) and exemptions for certain educational activities taking place through digital technologies as outlined in a congressionally mandated report on "Copyright and Digital Distance Education" prepared by the Copyright Office. The office also responded to numerous congressional inquiries about domestic and international copyright law and registration and recordation of works of authorship.

Bicentennial

The Library's Bicentennial Program Office continued to coordinate the effort to celebrate the Library's birthday with commemorative coins and a stamp, exhibitions, publications, symposia, Bicentennial-related activities at libraries nationwide and several projects, such as Favorite Poem, Local Legacies and Gifts to the Nation.

The first of the Bicentennial symposia series, "Frontiers of the Mind in the 21st Century," was held in June 1999, in which some 50 scholars from 24 fields discussed topics ranging from cosmology to mathematics.

Appointed in 1999 to an unprecedented third term as Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry, Robert Pinsky will present the Library with the first 50 audio and video segments from a nationwide Favorite Poem Project as part of the April 3-4, 2000, Bicentennial symposium, "Poetry in America: Reading, Performance and

Publication in the 19th and 20th Centuries."

A cornerstone Bicentennial project of 1999, Local Legacies, involved members of Congress and their constituents in an effort to document the cultural and historical traditions in their communities for the Library's Archive of Folk Culture. Citizens from all 50 states and the District of Columbia are participating in this grassroots effort to preserve the traditions and local histories of America at the end of the millennium. Selections from Local Legacies will be digitized in 2000 and shared with Americans through the Library's popular Web site.

The Gifts to the Nation project seeks to enrich the Library's collections during its Bicentennial year with materials identified as historically significant. A $1 million contribution from Gene and Jerry Jones to re-create Thomas Jefferson's library and $1 million from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation for the Martha Graham archives are among the notable contributions to this effort.

Additional information on the Library's Bicentennial is available at **www.loc.gov/bicentennial**.

Integrated Library System

As of Oct. 1, the Library had successfully implemented all modules of the Integrated Library System, including cataloging and circulation, the on-line card catalog in the reading rooms and on the World Wide Web, and the acquisitions and serials check-in modules.

The new system will improve automation support for bibliographic control and inventory management activities at the Library through the use of a shared bibliographic database that integrates all major Library Services functional areas, such as acquisitions, cataloging, serials management, circulation, inventory control and reference. The effort involved more than 500 Library staff serving on 80 implementation teams. Approximately 12 million bibliographic records, 4 million authority records, as well as some 30,000 vendor, 54,000 order, and nearly 26,000 patron records were converted from legacy systems to the ILS production database.

Russian Leadership Program

On May 24, Congress appropriated $10 million for an "Open World" Russian Leadership Program to bring emerging political leaders from the Russian Federation to America to observe the workings of democratic institutions. Administered by the Library of Congress, the program brought more than 2,100 Russian political, civic, business and intellectual leaders from 83 of 89 regions to America between July and Sept. 30. Hosted by more than 50 members of Congress and 800 American families in 400 communities, the Russian guests visited 46 states and the District of Columbia. Program co-chairs were Dr. Billington and Russian academician Dmitri Sergeevich Likhachev, who died on Sept. 30, the last day of the program.

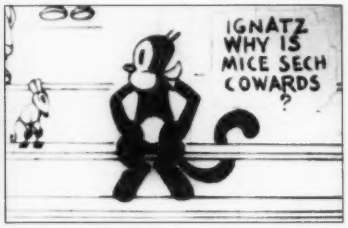
Financial Highlights

In February 1999, the Library's independent accountants, Clifton Gunderson LLC, issued an unqualified "clean" audit opinion on the Library's fiscal 1998 Consolidated Financial Statements. In addition to the third consecutive "clean" audit opinion, the auditors found no material internal control weaknesses, and the number of reportable conditions decreased from six to two.

Improved Service to Congress and the Nation Through Technology

The Library continued to improve its cataloging, copyright, research, management and information delivery systems through the development and use of technology. Specific achievements in 1999 include:

- **Legislative Information System.** The focus of development for the shared Legislative Information System (LIS) for Congress during the past year was creation of a Y2K-compliant system for the exchange of data among the House, the Senate and the Library of Congress. With the transition to the new system in December, the LIS will be the central point for locating legislative information.
- **Legislative Alert.** To speed legislative analyses to Congress, CRS developed weekly electronic mail delivery of reports, issue briefs and electronic materials relating to issues likely to receive action each week in the House and Senate. With links to the most recent products on the CRS Web site, these weekly summaries of legislative issues make information and analysis readily available to members and staff to support legislative deliberations.
- **Electronic Briefing Books.** CRS continued to develop one of its newest products, the electronic briefing book, by adding books for banking and finance, taxation and the year 2000 computer problem.
- **Internet Resources.** The Library continued to provide more information to Congress and the nation with its Internet-based systems. The Library's Web site was frequently cited for excellence in 1999 and was included on many "best of" lists, including *PC Magazine*, Netscape Net Guide and *The Scout Report*. Throughout the year, an average of nearly 80 million transactions were recorded on the Library's public electronic systems each month, a 30 percent increase over fiscal 1998 usage. Use of the American Memory historical collections increased by more than 60 percent — from an average of 9.3 million transactions during fiscal 1998 to 15 million per month in fiscal 1999. The publicly accessible legislative information system known as THOMAS continued to be an enormously popular resource, with more than 10 million systems transactions logged on average each month.
- **Global Legal Information System (GLIN).** GLIN is a cooperative international network of nations to which member nations contribute the full, authentic text of statutes and regulations on a database hosted by the Law Library of Congress. Twelve member countries are currently participating via the Internet. In addition, the Law Library contributed information about another 24 nations. This year, 264,000 GLIN transactions were made, including searches, inputting and updating of files. A milestone was reached in March when a new GLIN file was put into production to allow GLIN members to enter legal writings into the database and link these writings to summaries of laws that exist in the GLIN database.



African American sheet music, Teddy Roosevelt, early animation and ballroom dancing were some of the subjects covered in on-line releases in American Memory from the National Digital Library Program last year.

• **National Digital Library Program.** At year's end, approximately 2.5 million Library of Congress items and 85,000 items from collaborating institutions were available on-line or in digital files. An additional 2.5 million items from the Library's collections and other repositories were put into production as part of a national collaborative effort.

During the year, 18 new multimedia historical collections were added to the American Memory Web site, bringing the total to 68. Eight existing collections were expanded with additional items, and four new Library exhibitions were mounted on the Library's Web site.

Fiscal 1999 was the third and final year in which Library of Congress/Ameritech National Digital Library Competition awards were made to other archives and institutions to digitize historically significant American history collections; a total of $615,965 went to 12 recipients. Since the program's inception, a total of 33 award-winning institutions have received support to digitize their historical collections and make them available through the Library's American Memory Web site.

In 1999 the NDL Program held its third American Memory Fellows Institute, welcoming 50 K-12 teachers and school media specialists from 20 states to the Library's existing network of master educators, bringing the reach of the National Digital Library's educational outreach program into 30 states since 1996.

During fiscal 1999, the National Digital Library Visitors' Center hosted more than 500 programs for more than 7,800 visitors. Center staff also answered 5,074 requests for information received through electronic mail.

• **CORDS.** Developed in collaboration with the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and Corporation for National Research Initiatives, the Copyright Office Electronic Registration, Recordation and Deposit System (CORDS) will help the Copyright Office streamline its internal registration, recordation and deposit processes, as well as provide the Library with copies of new copyrighted works in digital form for its National Digital Library repository. During the year the Copyright Office continued to develop, test and enhance CORDS for the digital registration and deposit of copyrighted works through the Internet, using the latest advances in networking and computer technology. The major emphasis of CORDS testing and implementation during the year was focused on successful establishment of system-to-system communications for CORDS electronic copyright registration and deposit with the office's largest copyright remitter, Bell and Howell Information and Learning (previously known as UMI), for electronic receipt and processing of claims for digital dissertations.

• **Geographic Information Systems.** The Geography and Map Division (G&M) continued to work closely with the National Digital Library to digitize cartographic materials for electronic access throughout the nation. In cooperation with the Congressional Research Service and the Congressional Relations Office, G&M produced customized maps and geographic information for members of Congress. Working with the National Digital Library, G&M digitized cartographic materials for electronic access throughout the nation. With the help of private-sector partners, G&M continued to expand a collection of large-format images available through Internet. A new collection, "Mapping the National Parks," was introduced on June 2, and an evolving collection of "Places in the News/Contemporary Maps" was inaugurated in April 1999. By the end of the fiscal year, 2,428 maps (8,120 images) were made available to the world through the Map Collections home page, which now averages more than 410,000 computer transactions each month.

Security

Securing the Library's facilities, staff, collections and computer resources continued to be a high priority. On Oct. 21, 1998, President Clinton signed an omnibus emergency spending bill that included $17 million for security of Library buildings as part of a $106.8 million U.S. Capitol package to improve physical security of the Capitol Hill complex.

During the year, the Library installed X-ray machines in the James Madison, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams main lobbies, where visitors were screened electronically beginning in May. The Library also awarded a single contract for security guards to support certain functions; expanded police presence by adding new posts and patrols; and gained congressional approval of plans to make major physical security improvements, including the consolidation of the two police command centers, the integration and upgrading of intrusion detection systems and the installation of improved access controls, such as vehicle barriers, curb walls, perimeter bollards and secure police shelters.

In coordination with the Office of the Inspector General, an external auditing firm was contracted to do a random sampling of the collections in the Prints and Photographs Division, the first step in a major undertaking to establish baselines of the Library's inventory so that follow-up inspections can be made to measure the extent of theft and mutilation.

The Collection Security Oversight Committee created four standing subcommittees (Policy and Standards, Operations, Security Awareness and Resources), which have implemented actions outlined in the Library's Security Plan.

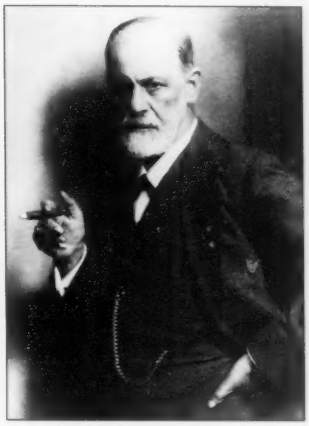
The Library continued to implement a comprehensive computer security plan to safeguard its valuable electronic resources and a Year 2000 plan to ensure that its computer systems will function properly at the turn of the century. As a result of testing, modifying or replacing systems as necessary, all of the Library's mission-critical systems were certified Year 2000 compliant at year's end.

Information Technology Services completed the curriculum for a Library-wide information technology security awareness class and completed work on automation of security administration for the Library's large UNIX server complex, on network subdivisions (i.e., public vs. private) and on full Internet "firewall" implementation.

The Collections

During the year, the size of the Library's collections grew to nearly 119 million items, an increase of approximately 3.5 million over fiscal 1998 totals. This figure includes 27.5 million books and other print materials, 53 million manuscripts, 12.5 million microforms, 4.5 million maps, 4.2 million items in the music collection, and 13.4 million visual materials (photographs, posters, moving images, prints and drawings). At year's end the total number of unprocessed materials, or "arrearages," stood at 19,793,689 items, a decrease of 50 percent from the 39.7 million-item arrearage at the time of the initial census in September 1989. Staff created catalog records for 205,893 print volumes and inventory records for an additional 55,243 items.

Linked to the Library's arrearage reduction effort is the development of secondary storage sites to house processed materials and to provide for growth of the collection through the first part of the 21st century. In March 1999, the Library and the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) recommended the firm of Tobey & Davis to the David and Lucile Packard Foundation to be the prime architect to design a National Audio-Visual Conservation Center in Culpeper, Va.



Charles and Ray Eames (left) and Sigmund Freud were the subjects of major exhibitions at the Library.

The Library also continued to work closely with the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) and its contractors to ensure that the first storage module at Fort Meade, Md., meets the necessary environmental requirements to house and preserve the transferred collections and that materials handling will be as efficient as possible. The AOC has advised the Library that construction of Module 1 will be complete and the building ready for occupancy late in 2000. The module will house 2.2 million items of paper-based material, primarily books, shelved by size in containers.

Important Acquisitions

Important acquisitions came to the Library through gift, exchange or purchase; the copyright deposit system; or through other federal agencies. Notable acquisitions during fiscal year 1999 included more than 600,000 items of Supreme Court Justices Harry Blackmun and Ruth Bader Ginsberg; papers and documents relating to the early history of the United States in the Marian Carson Collection; a multimedia collection of ballet choreographer Bronislava Nijinska; the *Carte de Canada et des Etats Unis de l'Amerique* (1778), the first map to recognize the independence of the United States.; a Persian manuscript celestial globe, ca. 1650; the first American Haggadah, published in New York City in 1837; 337 issues of the post-Revolutionary newspaper *Claypoole's Daily Advertiser*, 1791-1793; 40,000 works by more than 3,000 artists in the J. Arthur Wood Jr., Collection of cartoons and caricature; the Victor Hammer Archives containing the works of one of the great hand-press printers, printmakers, and type designers of the 20th century; and *Politica* by Aristotle (Cologne, 1492), the earliest version of Aristotle's work to become available in the West.

Preservation Improvements

The Library took action to improve the preservation of its vast and diverse collections by (1) completing the mass deacidification treatment of 75,000 volumes using the Bookkeeper process; (2) binding 183,202 paperback volumes and labeling 156,004 hardcover volumes; (3) introducing a conservation fellow volunteer program, in which five volunteers rehoused 15,101 items; (4) identifying and evaluating an improved, commercially available motion picture container; (5) developing a new time-saving, accelerated-aging test that will be used to predict the longevity of paper products; (6) coordinating the preservation microfilming of 1.6 million pages of historically significant U.S. newspapers, adding more than 6,000 titles to the national union list of newspapers; microfilming 3.3 million papers from the Library's collections; (8) completing housing for 162,242 technical reports in the Publication Board Collection in the Science, Technology and Business Division; (9) inspecting and processing 364 positive and 175 negative reels of microfilm acquired from Moscow's Library of Foreign Literature and Russian State Library, Lithuania, and military archives in Hungary, Poland and Romania; and (10) identifying laser-marking equipment that can be used to place Library property information safely on CDs, audiotapes and videotapes in the Library's collections .

Copyright Office

The Copyright Office received 619,022 claims and made 594,501 registrations in fiscal 1999. The office responded to nearly 427,000 requests from the public for copyright information, of which more than 10,000 were received electronically. Selected as one of the nation's top Web sites by *PC/Novice/Smart Computing* magazine, the Copyright Office Web site played an increasingly important role in the dissemination of information to the copyright community and the general public. The Web site logged more than 5.6 million hits during the year, a nearly threefold increase over the previous year.

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped distributed more than 22 million items to some 765,000 readers in 1999. Braille readers may now access more than 2,700 Web-Braille (digital braille) book files created by the Library with a computer or electronic note-taker and a refreshable braille display, which is an electronic device that raises or lowers an array of pins to create a line of braille characters, or a braille embosser. Work also continued on digital talking-book standards under the auspices of the National Information Standards Organization. Expected to be completed in one year, this digital standard will be used by NLS to develop its new talking book.

American Folklife Center

Approved on Oct. 21, 1998, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 1999 provided the American Folklife Center with permanent authorization and six new trustees for its board of directors. The center continued its mandate to "preserve and present American folklife" through a number of outreach programs, including the Local Legacies project and the addition of three new on-line collections.

Sharing the Library's Treasures

The Library's collections were shared with hundreds of thousands of Americans through on-site exhibitions, special events, symposia, traveling exhibits and major publications.

The Library presented six new exhibitions. Items rotated into the Library's permanent exhibition, "American Treasures of the Library of Congress," included a copy of the Gettysburg Address, Lincoln's 1861 inaugural address and Thomas Jefferson's rough draft of the Declaration of Independence. The year's two major exhibition's, "Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture" and "Charles and Ray Eames: A Legacy of Invention," were scheduled to visit Germany, Denmark, Vienna, London, New York City, Los Angeles, Brazil and Chicago. The Bicentennial theme of "Libraries, Creativity, Liberty" was reflected in the first two Bicentennial exhibitions, "The Work of Charles and Ray Eames: A Legacy of Invention," and "John Bull and Uncle Sam: Four Centuries of British-American Relations," featuring materials from the Library of Congress and the British Library. Four new exhibitions, including "Freud" and "Eames," were added to the Library's Web site.

Joyce Naltchayan

Glen Krankowski

Members of the Library's Madison Council; Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and his wife, Gene, present Dr. Billington with the first volume in the effort to reconstruct Thomas Jefferson's library, which they funded.

The Publishing Office produced more than 25 books, calendars and other products describing the Library's collections. The office also produced a catalog of the Library's selected publications, titled *Celebrating Books*. Major publications in fiscal 1999 produced by the Library or in cooperation with outside publishers included: *Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture* (Alfred A. Knopf); *The Declaration of Independence: The Evolution of the Text* (University Press of New England); and *Gathering History: The Marian S. Carson Collection of Americana. Language of the Land: The Library of Congress Book of Literary Maps* received much media attention and was the subject of feature articles in newspapers across the country.

The award-winning book *Eyes of the Nation* was also released as a multimedia CD-ROM and DVD-ROM by Southpeak Interactive and the History Channel. *Eyes of the Nation* won second place in the American Association of Museums CD-ROM design competition, was named one of the top 10 family multimedia products by *Family Life* magazine and was the topic of a feature article in *The New York Times*. Publications that garnered overall design excellence awards from Washington Book Publishers were *Freud: Conflict and Culture; Gathering History: The Marian S. Carson Collection of Americana; Oliphant's Anthem: Pat Oliphant at the Library of Congress;* and *Performing Arts: Motion Pictures.*

The Visitor Services Office conducted 3,108 tours for 64,489 visitors; arranged 734 tours for 13,699 congressional constituents; and made 487 appointments with Library staff for 2,180 VIPs, professionals, and students representing 77 different countries. The office assisted 858 first-time readers at a new Researcher Guidance Desk. A cadre of 152 volunteers provided 26,531 hours of service, conducted 1,780 public tours and 52 Spanish-language tours, and responded to inquiries from 179,813 visitors.

The Library piloted a Web broadcasting program starting with Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky's lecture that opened the 1998-99 poetry season on Oct. 8, 1998. The pilot explored the practicality of a regular Library

cybercast during the year of the Library's Bicentennial.

The bimonthly *Civilization* magazine, which is published under a licensing agreement with the Library, completed its fifth year of publication with more than 250,000 paid subscribers, who are also Library of Congress Associates.

Restoration and Renovation

During fiscal 1999, the Library completed a number of moves and actions as part of the multiyear plan to outfit and occupy the remaining renovated spaces of the Thomas Jefferson and John Adams buildings. Major accomplishments include relocating Contracts and Logistics Services from the Landover Annex to the John Adams building; completing the Thomas Jefferson Building and Rare Book Roof Replacement project, as well as work in the Jefferson Visitors' Center, Concert Office and Coolidge Green Room.

With the complete restoration of the Thomas Jefferson building, the Library has been able to support the work of Congress by providing the Members' Room and other building facilities for legislative and policy retreats as well as leadership convocations for the House and Senate. More than 100 events were held by Congress members during fiscal 1999.

Gift and Trust Funds

During fiscal 1999, the Library's fund-raising activities brought in a total of $14.2 million in gifts, including $5.2 million in cash gifts and $9 million in new pledges. The Library received 784 gifts to 72 different Library funds. Twelve new gift and trust funds were established. At year's end, outstanding pledges totaled $16 million. During fiscal 1999, the Library celebrated the completion of the fund-raising for the first phase of the National Digital Library Program. Major gifts included $2.5 million from the AT&T Corp. and $1 million from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. The total raised for the NDL Program is now $48 million, which exceeds the original goal of $45 million from the private sector. The Library honored the founding and charter sponsors of the NDL Program during a celebratory event on April 13, 1999.

Private gifts supported a variety of other new and continuing programs throughout the Library, including exhibitions, acquisitions, symposia and an extensive series of Bicentennial programs. Major gifts included a $1.4 million grant from the Xerox Foundation to fund the new "World Treasures from the Library of Congress" exhibition; a $1.6 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to the Congressional Research Service; a $1 million grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation to purchase the Martha Graham Archives and to support dance programs; and a $1 million gift from Jerry and Gene Jones for the reconstruction of Thomas Jefferson's library. Through the Gifts to the Nation program for the Bicentennial, the Library brought in 35 new gifts totaling $7,487,953 for special items, collections and programs.

Human Resources Improvement

Congress approved two reprogramming actions during fiscal year 1999 totalling $720,000 to accelerate the Library's HR 21 initiative to enable the Library to compete successfully for highly qualified staff, retain high performers, and reward excellence and innovation, train and manage staff to achieve Library missions, and make personnel administration responsive, efficient and effective. A Strategic Planning Group and a Hiring Improvement Group recommended a new human resources program and a timetable for implementing new systems, programs, and procedures. The Library also issued a Human Resources Strategic Plan to guide the transformation effort and ensure that human resources activities clearly align with the agency mission.

The Library of Congress Internal University (LCIU) developed and published *the Library of Congress Mission Critical Education and Training Matrix*, a training tool that identifies 37 Library mission-critical courses as well as specific courses for service units. To reinforce "facilitative leadership" practices throughout the Library, LCIU developed and conducted the course "Teams in Action." The LCIU also continued to coordinate the quarterly "Leadership Lecture Series," a forum for managers and staff to learn from top corporate offices, government officials and leadership scholars about effective leadership practices and techniques.

The Library also signed an agreement with the labor organizations to establish a pilot mentoring program for Library employees. ◆

Ms. Fischer is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office. Portions of this article were excerpted from other staff reports.

Background
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Jackson and Ulysses Grant decorate the walls. Other Jefferson Building representations of government and democracy include the seals of the states of the union (as of the 1890s) in the windows above the Main Reading Room and the names of the signers of the Declaration of Independence in the stained glass ceiling panels in the second-floor south gallery.

The Library's Jeffersonian legacy (see *Information Bulletin*, June 1999) pervades all aspects of the institution. Of special note are the Jefferson bust in the Great Hall and the murals and quotations in the South Reading Room of the Adams Building. The other bust in the Great Hall is of George Washington. Other founding fathers to whom the Library looks are John Adams, who signed the legislation creating the Library on April 24, 1800, and for whom the 1939 Adams Building is named, and James Madison, whose official national memorial is the 1980 James Madison Building of the Library. Madison's astute quotations about knowledge, democracy, liberty and learning are inscribed at the outside entrance of the Madison Building.

A letter from Madison inscribed on the wall at the entrance to the building eloquently describes the importance of libraries in democracy:

"What spectacle can be more edifying or more seasonable, than that of liberty & learning, each leaning on the other for their mutual and surest support?" ◆

John Cole is director of the Center for the Book and co-chair of the Bicentennial Steering Committee.

What's in a Name?

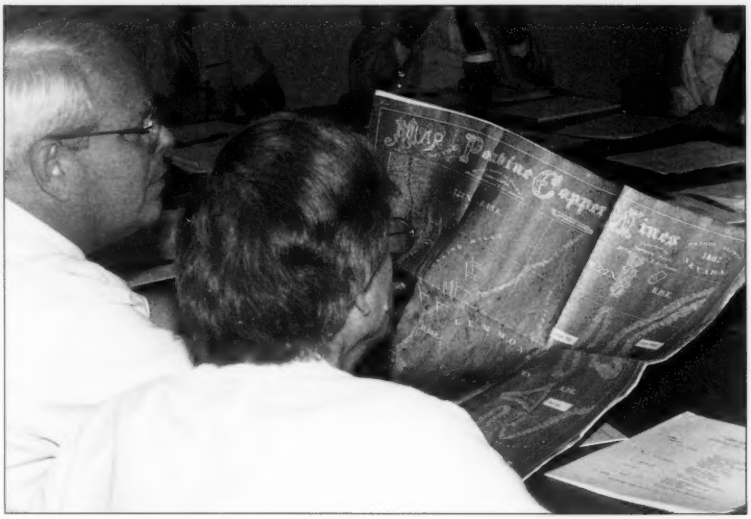
The Work of the Domestic Names Committee

By HELEN DALRYMPLE

Representatives of four U.S. government agencies, several staff members from the U.S. Geological Survey and three guests – one of whom was from the Federal Agency of Cartography and Geology of Germany – convened this summer in the Library's Geography and Map Division for the 600th meeting of the Domestic Names Committee of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Created in 1947, when the Board on Geographic Names was reorganized, the committee meets monthly and is responsible for standardizing the names of places, features and areas within the 50 states and in other areas under the sovereignty of the United States.

The systematic standardization of geographic names in the United States began late in the 19th century. With the surge of mapping and scientific reporting associated with the exploration, mining and settlement of the Western territories following the Civil War, it became clear that mapmakers and scientists needed to have a uniform, nonconflicting geographical nomenclature in place to avoid confusion among places and names.



Helen Dalrymple

Richard Witmer of the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Library's Robert Hiatt examine a copy of an 1867 Nevada map of copper mines related to one of the docket's naming questions.

President Benjamin Harrison established the U.S. Board on Geographic Names with an executive order on Sept. 4, 1890, with authority to resolve all unsettled questions concerning geographic names. President Theodore Roosevelt extended the board's authority in 1906, giving it the additional power to standardize all geographic names for federal use, including name changes and new names.

At its 600th meeting, chaired by Gerald T. Coghlan of the Department of Agriculture, the committee members approved new names for previously unnamed features; voted to change existing names where local usage had shifted; and deferred a decision on a conflict between two different names pending further research.

The executive secretary of the Domestic Names Committee is provided by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Roger Payne, the current executive secretary, serves as executive secretary to the full Board on Geographic Names (BGN) as well. The current chairman of the BGN, who is appointed by the Secretary of the Interior upon recommendation of the board, is Ronald F. Grim, senior cartographic specialist in the Library's Geography and Map Division.

The Board on Geographic Names may be unique among federal entities in that it has no budget, no staff of its own and relies on other federal agencies for staffing and meeting space. Its members are drawn from other federal agencies and receive no additional compensation for their work on the board. Permanent members come from the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Interior and State, the Library of Congress, the Government Printing Office, the U.S. Postal Service and the Central Intelligence Agency.

Helen Dalrymple

The Library's Ronald Grim, Charles Harne of the Department of the Interior and Jennifer Runyon of the U.S. Geographical Survey review place-name records.

Research on the proposals for new names or name changes is prepared by staff members of USGS, part of the Department of Interior. At its summer meeting, Docket 372 proposed a change in the name "Cascade Reservoir" to "Lake Cascade" in the Boise National Forest in Valley County, Idaho. Staff members had contacted the Bureau of Reclamation, which confirmed that current local usage is more frequently "Lake Cascade." The Cascade City Council and the Valley County Board of Commissioners passed resolutions in support of the name change; and the Idaho State Board on Geographic Names and the U.S. Forest Service also approved the proposal.

One of the long-standing principles of the BGN is recognition of present-day local usage. And, as in the above case, local usage may change. The Cascade Dam was built by the Bureau of Reclamation in 1948; early maps labeled the reservoir the "Cascade Dam Reservoir." But by the mid-1950s, the name "Cascade Reservoir" had come into common use. Forty years later, with the renaming of an area park Lake Cascade State Park, local usage has evolved so that the name "Lake Cascade" now makes more sense. The Domestic Names Committee agreed and voted to approve the change.

Four other cases on the docket illustrated another board principle: naming previously unnamed domestic geographic features after deceased individuals long associated with the site, when such names are recommended by local authorities. Thus the committee approved the naming of a lagoon and a bay in Kachemak Bay State Park in Alaska after two individuals who had long lived in the area. In both cases, the recommendation was originally made by a local citizen, the state park agreed and the Alaska State Board on Geographic Names concurred. And two previously unnamed features in Florida are now officially known as "Barley Basin" and "Shands Key" as a result of the committee's action in June.

In another case, the issue of local support was less clear. A fifth-grade class in the state of Washington participated in the Adopt-a-Stream program and studied the environment along an unnamed stream near the school. They decided to ask that the stream be named Haywitch Creek after an American Indian doctor who for many years lived in the Snoqualmie Valley, although there was no evidence that he was specifically associated with the stream in question. A member of the Snoqualmie Tribal Council, who spoke to the students about Haywitch during their research project, endorsed the proposal, as did the full Tribal Council. Other local groups agreed, including eventually the King County Council, but the Washington State Board on Geographic Names initially recommended against the proposal, because of a lack of a strong historical connection of the individual to the feature. Because the State Board's decision was made before it learned of the county's support, USGS staff contacted the board again upon learning of the county's endorsement. The State Board said it would stand by its original recommendation against the name. Taking all of this into account at its summer meeting, the Domestic Names Committee voted to approve the name.

Generally the Domestic Names Committee does not approve of names with hyphens or apostrophes because of the confusion that may result. In approving a name for a waterfall in a remote area along the Tualatin River in Oregon, however, the committee went along with the name "Ki-a-Kuts Falls," honoring the chief of a Kalapuyan Indian tribe who once resided in the area. In fact, the proposal was originally submitted as "Ki-a-Cut Falls" by a local environmental group, but when the proposal was submitted to the Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde, they asked that the spelling be changed to that used by the tribe. The original proponent agreed to change the proposed name to conform to the tribal usage, the State Board recommended approval of the name and the Domestic Names Committee concurred.

Observing the deliberations of the Domestic Names Committee for a few hours helps one understand how complex a "simple name" can be – and how important it is to have a process for standardization. In some cases, local groups may disagree on the appropriate name or spelling of a geographical feature, and the committee

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Helen Dalrymple

Attendees of the 600th meeting of the Domestic Names Committee (from left) include Jörn Sievers (Bundesamt fur Kartographie und Geodasie, Germany), Mark Flood (U.S. Department of Agriculture), Nancy Dukes (U.S. Geographical Survey), Jennifer Runyon (USGS), Claire DeVaughan (USGS), Gerald Coghlan (USDA), Charles Harne (Interior), Richard Witmer (Interior), Roger Payne (USGS), Ronald Grim (Library of Congress), Joseph Marinucci (Department of Commerce), Curtis Loy (Commerce), Robert Hiatt (LC), Dennis Romesburg (Commerce), Alison Kiernan (USGS), Michael Jones (Interior) and Lou Yost (USGS).

This hand-drawn map on Macau and the Chinese coastline (ca. 1736-1796) is part of the collections of the Library's Geography and Map Division.

Treasures and Images of Macau

Former Portuguese Colony Returned to China

BY JUDY S. LU

On Dec. 20, 1999, Macau was returned to China after 442 years of Portuguese rule. To mark the occasion, the Library's Federal Research Division Chief Robert Worden, and this writer discussed the Library's resources on the history of Macau, the first Asian seaport opened to the West.

Located at the mouth of the Zhu Jiang (Pearl River), about 40 miles southwest of Hong Kong, Macau consists of a peninsula and the islands of Taipa and Coloane. A mix of Eastern and Western cultures is reflected in Macau's architecture, life-styles and traditions.

In 1152, Macau (Sung Dynasty), was under the jurisdiction of Hsiang-shan (Fragrant Mountain). In the early part of the 16th century, when the Portuguese took control of the Asian- European trade, Macau was an integral part of Portugal's seafaring explorations. In 1557 the Portuguese established a permanent settlement there and paid taxes and leased the land from China. Macau became a Portuguese territory in 1845, following the Opium War.

Several important treaties are in the Library's collections, including a handwritten Chinese calligraphy version on white silk of the first treaty between the U.S. and China, signed in 1844; the document is in the Manuscript Division. The Library also has several watercolors of the city, including harbor scenes painted by John West, the official artist who accompanied the first American envoy to China, Caleb Cushing, in 1842.

Rare maps of Macau from the Geography and Map Division include a magnificent hand-drawn scroll map believed to have been created during the Ch'ien-Lung Emperor period (1736-1796).

According to rare publications in the Library's Chinese collection, such as *Hsiang Shan hsien chih* (the Gazetteer of Hsiang Shan) and *Macau History of Four Hundred Years*, archaeological discoveries show that Chinese people resided in the area more than 5,000 years ago. Other rare books in the Chinese collection recorded the history of Macau to the Han Dynasty, 206 B.C-A.D. 220.

Also on display were books and documents relating to the agreement signed by China and Portugal in 1987 under which the sovereignty of Macau was to be transferred from Portugal to China. As in Hong Kong, the people in Macau will live for the next 50 years under the "one country, two systems" arrangement. ◆

Ms. Lu is an area specialist in the Library's Asian Division.

Conservation Corner

Library Preserves Jazz Legacy

BY YVONNE FRENCH

Jazz fans will be glad to hear that the Library is preserving the private audiotape collection of bassist Milt Hinton, who played and recorded with everyone from Cab Calloway and Billie Holiday to John Coltrane.

Hinton's 167 reel-to-reel tapes contain rare, unpublished live recordings and oral histories with many important musicians.

The tapes, once preserved, will be available for research, and full catalog records of the tapes will be available on-line worldwide through the Library's new Integrated Library Service catalog.

"It was very fluid who was playing with whom, and when, in these jazz ensembles. Getting the sidemen into the record is very important to jazz scholars who want to study performance issues and trace influences," said Eugene DeAnna, head of the Recorded Sound Processing Unit.

Said Senior Supervisory Studio Engineer Larry Appelbaum of the Library's Recording Laboratory: "We are preserving these deteriorating tapes by reformatting the content onto more stable analog and digital magnetic tape."

Appelbaum is recording three simultaneous copies of each tape: a 10-inch analog preservation master, a digital audiotape (DAT) reference copy, and a 10-inch reel for Mr. Hinton.

"The most difficult and potentially damaging problem with the tapes is their tendency to become sticky. The binder in certain tape stocks breaks down over time and absorbs moisture from the air. The current treatment for these tapes is to bake them in a convection oven at 130 degrees F for six to eight hours. This gives us about a month to reformat the tapes before the binder starts to break down again," said Mr. Appelbaum.

Another environmental problem was powdery mold on a few of the plastic reels and in the cardboard boxes that held the tapes. This was either vacuumed off or carefully wiped off with cheesecloth.

Additionally, "Some of the tapes had not been stored with an 'even wind.' They were 'scatter wound,'" said Mr. Appelbaum. This can cause deformation, which can cause the tape to move crookedly across the heads during playback, which in turn can cause loss of certain frequencies. Mr. Appelbaum replaced the warped reels and wound the tapes with proper tension to produce an "even tape pack."

Finally, tape splices were replaced wherever the adhesive tape had dried out.

Before recording, Mr. Appelbaum must determine the proper track configuration and playback speed. "The speed control on Hinton's recorder was unstable and this requires constant monitoring during copying," said Mr. Appelbaum, who has gotten to know Hinton's speaking voice.

The original tapes are rewound on larger circumference reels to reduce stress on the tape. All the tapes are being placed in polyethylene preservation containers designed by the Library. ◆

Ms. French is a fellow in the Library's 1999-2000 Leadership Development Program.

Names

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must assess the evidence and make a decision. In other cases, state legislation may throw the names of many geographical features into disarray.

In April 1999, for example, the governor of Montana signed legislation to remove the word "squaw" from any geographic features in the state. There are currently 72 features using "squaw" in their name. The legislation directed the state's coordinator of Indian affairs to appoint an advisory committee to develop replacement names and report them to the BGN and other appropriate federal agencies, such as the U.S. Forest Service. Because not all of the features are located on Native American lands, the State Board on Geographic Names has urged that all stakeholders play a role in the process at the local level. These name changes will be coming to the board over the next couple of years and will undoubtedly generate a great deal of interest. Minnesota enacted similar legislation in 1995, and it took two years to change only 17 names; and two counties still resist the changes.

All of these geographic names are included in the National Geographic Names Database, part of the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), which is maintained by USGS in cooperation with the BGN. Some 3 million name records are in the database – natural features, populated places, civil divisions, areas and regions and cultural features such as mines, churches, schools, cemeteries, hospitals, dams, airports and shopping centers – and all are considered official for federal use. It is currently being redesigned to make it easier to search. One of the products of GNIS is the National Digital Gazetteer, which is a compact disc (CD-ROM) containing the nation's geographic names. Version five of the CD-ROM, adding almost 100,000 names to the earlier version, was released in December. The GNIS may be accessed on the Web at **mapping.usgs.gov/www/gnis**. The digital gazetteer of the United States (compact disc) may be ordered from the USGS's Earth Science Information Center at 507 National Center, Reston VA 20192, phone (888) ASK-USGS or (703) 648-5920.

So, what's in a name? A great deal – the history of the land, local lore, decisions by state agencies and hard work on the part of the members of the BGN and the Domestic Names Committee who strive to reconcile local usage with board principles to arrive at the most appropriate names for geographical features that will be used on all federal maps. One should keep this in mind the next time a map is used. There's a reason behind all of those names. ◆

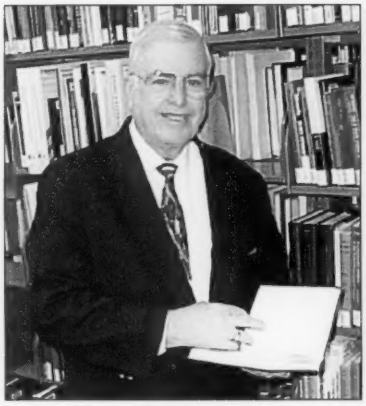
Ms. Dalrymple is senior public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

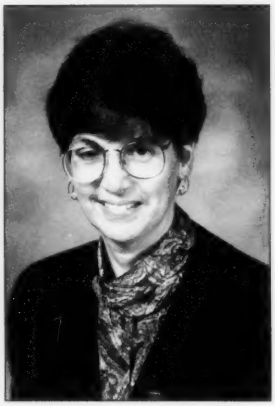
News from the Center for the Book

Arkansas, DC Centers for the Book Approved

The Library of Congress has approved proposals from the Arkansas State Library and the District of Columbia Public Library to establish centers for the book that will be affiliated with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

"We're delighted to welcome Arkansas and the District of Columbia to our growing network of affiliated centers," said Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole. "We rely on our affiliates to bring the Center for the Book's message about the importance of books, reading and libraries to the local level. The affiliates program now includes 38 state centers for the book plus the District of Columbia."





Two catalysts for the creation of the most recent affiliates of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress: Arkansas State Librarian John A. "Pat" Murphey Jr. and Mary E. "Molly" Raphael, director of the District of Columbia Public Library.

The first state center, Florida, was approved in 1984. Each affiliation, when approved or renewed, is for a three-year period. Information about the state centers and their activities can be found on the Center for the Book's Web site: **www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook**.

The development of the proposal from Arkansas required several years. "It took time, but in the end our proposal received support from the governor, the state legislature and state Library Board," said State Librarian John A. "Pat" Murphey Jr. "We're extremely pleased to see the Arkansas Center for the Book finally come into existence. We look forward to enhancing the love of books and reading among Arkansans as well as increasing public awareness and appreciation of the contributions of our enthusiastic Arkansas community of the book."

Initial Arkansas Center for the Book projects will include a directory of the state's book community, co-sponsorship of the Letters About Literature project and sponsorship of a statewide reading program for children and of a publishers' exhibition of children's books. For information about the Arkansas Center for the Book, contact Jane Thompson, Arkansas State Library, 1 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR 722201; telephone (501) 682-5288; fax (501) 682-1693.

The purpose of the District of Columbia Center for the Book is "to celebrate, honor and promote books, reading, literacy and the literary heritage of the District of Columbia and the surrounding metropolitan area." Creation of a District of Columbia Center for the Book became a goal of Mary E. "Molly" Raphael soon after she became director of the District of Columbia Public Library in February 1998. "It's a new era for the library, and this new program fits our plan beautifully." Ms. Raphael said. "This will be a collaborative effort, and we look forward to its full development and to cooperating with the state centers for the book in Maryland and Virginia and elsewhere whenever possible."

In announcing approval of the District of Columbia proposal, Mr. Cole said that it was "appropriate and important" that this new link be established. "The Library of Congress is located in the District of Columbia, and several of the national Center for the Book's reading and literacy promotion projects already parallel efforts at the District of Columbia Public Library and its 27 branches." For information about the new Center for the Book, contact Patricia Pasqual at the District of Columbia Public Library, 901 G Street N.W., Room 400, Washington, DC 20001-4599; telephone (202) 727-2313; fax (202) 727-1129.

Sixteen State Centers Renewed for 2000-2003

Center for the Book Program Officer Maurvene D. Williams announced in January that the national center had approved renewal proposals from all 16 of the state centers for the book due for renewal at the end of 1999. "We ask for a summary of each center's accomplishments for the past three years and an outline of their plans for the next three," she said. "Since each state center must provide its own funding, we try to be flexible and supportive in reviewing proposals. We are especially pleased that in recent years we have not had to reject any of the renewal applications."

The renewed state centers and the dates of their original approval are: Alaska (1990), California (1987), Florida (1984), Indiana (1987), Kansas (1987), Maryland (1996), Minnesota (1990), Missouri (1993), Nebraska (1990), New Mexico (1996), North Dakota (1993), Ohio (1987), South Carolina (1996), Tennessee (1996), Texas (1987) and Virginia (1987).

RIVER of WORDS
ENVIRONMENTAL
POETRY & ART PROJECT

Robert Hass to Host 'River of Words' Event on April 29

Former Poet Laureate Robert Hass returns to the Library of Congress on April 29 to moderate a program honoring the student winners of the fifth annual River of Words environmental poetry and art contest. The program, featuring poetry readings by the winning authors, a display of the winning artworks by their creators and commentary by Mr. Hass, will take place at 2 p.m. in the Mumford Room on the sixth floor of the Library's James Madison Memorial Building. It is free and open to the public.

The contest, which focuses on the theme of watersheds, is open to students in kindergarten through 12th grade. "We are trying to alert kids to the natural world and its connection to artistic expression and the human spirit," said Mr. Hass, who served as U.S. Poet Laureate from 1995 to 1997 and whose 1996 Library of Congress conference, "Watershed: Writers, Nature and Community," helped inspire River of Words. Mr. Hass cofounded the project with Pamela Michael, who serves as project director. The sponsors are the International Rivers Network and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. State centers for the book in Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico are among the participants.

Eight grand prizes, four in poetry and four in art, are awarded. The grand prize winners and one international winner receive a trip to Washington, accompanied by a parent. Each year several thousand young people submit poems and artwork about their own natural surroundings. Mr. Hass selects the poetry winners. The art winners are selected by Germaine Juneau, director of the International Children's Art Museum.

"River of Words has greatly expanded its local partnership and community outreach programs," said Ms. Michael. "Moreover, we offered teacher training workshops; a curriculum kit and help in curriculum design; contest coordination help at the regional level; and local, national and international media support." For information, see the River of Words Web site: **www.irn.org**.

"What I like best about our annual River of Words awards ceremony is witnessing firsthand the creative instinct that these kids somehow have developed for the world around them — it's inspiring," said Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole.

River of Words is supported by contributions from *American Way*, the magazine of American Airlines; the Witter Bynner Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the East Bay Municipal Utilities District, the Center for Ecoliteracy, the Library of America, Magnetic Poetry, the Rhode Island Foundation and Robin and Marsha Williams. ◆

The River of Word poster (above) is available from the International Rivers Network; Robert Hass with participants at the 1998 River of Words awards ceremony at the Library.

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